NATIONAL INVESTIGATIONS COMMITTEE
ON AERIAL PHENOMENA
WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

TELEPHONE: NORTH 7-9434
CABLE ADDRESS: SKYLIGHT

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES:
1536 CONNECTICUT AVE., N.W.

Feburary 6, 1957

Dear Mr. Woodruff:

Your interest in the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena is greatly appreciated, and Admiral Delmer S. Fahrney, Chairman of NICAP's Board of Governors, asks me to express his personal thanks for your letter.

"Reliable reports," Admiral Fahrney recently stated, "indicate that unknown objects are coming into our atmosphere at very high speeds under intelligent control. There is an urgent need to know the facts."

For years Air Force Intelligence has kept secret the official reports of UFO's—unidentified flying objects, commonly called flying saucers. Believing the public has a right to know, NICAP is setting up a nationwide network to report UFO's to our headquarters. All authentic reports will be evaluated by a NICAP panel of engineers, pilots, radar operators, and other experts; conclusions will then be made public.

Two publications are planned: a monthly newsletter entitled "Project Skylight", with the latest UFO reports and behind-the-scene developments; and a magazine with articles by leading UFO researchers and engineers, dramatic first-hand sightings, our own space-travel plans, and a review of the key UFO cases and controversial claims since 1947.

The flood of mail following Admiral Fahrney's published statements proves that thousands of Americans are anxious to know the facts. As an Associate Member of NICAP—for the annual fee of $7.50—you will have an important part in this search for the truth, and also the privilege of joining a NICAP affiliated club in your vicinity.

We are always grateful for your reports—and newspaper reports—of sightings. We also welcome your suggestions for articles in NICAP publications. When you send your reply to this letter, please enclose your membership fee and address the envelope simply —

NICAP
1536 Conn. Ave.
Washington 6, D.C.

We look forward to working with you in this intensely interesting research.

Sincerely,

Donald E. Keyhoe

DEK:RH

DONALD E. KEYHOE, Major USMC (Ret.)
DIRECTOR OF NICAP

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NEWS RELEASE of JANUARY 16, 1957

Remarks of ADMIRAL DELMER S. FAHRNEY, Chairman of the Board of Governors of NICAP, at a Press Conference held at NICAP headquarters, above address:

It is obvious to this gathering that the proposed investigations of aerial phenomena are significant and worthwhile. As long as unidentified objects continue to navigate through the earth's atmosphere, there is an urgent "need to know" generated throughout the land.

It was on the basis of this great public interest in, and the demand for, authoritative and definitive investigation that the Air Forces were assigned the duty to search out the truth in all sightings of unusual character. This agency is painstakingly examining each case presented and has as carefully placed the findings in its files.

We cannot object to this procedure, because the Air Forces are collecting factual data on which to base an opinion. In any complex investigation, dealing with unknowns, voluminous data must be collected and much time is required to sift and correlate the material. It is well, therefore, that pressure tactics as such be avoided in demanding premature releases of information.

Because of the seeming frustration—that is, all information going in and none coming out—many observers have ceased to report their findings to the Air Force. It is in this area that the NICAP organization may find its greatest mission. If this group can win the wholehearted cooperation and support of the public, it can perform a wanted and necessary service of enlightenment to the public.

It is then most important that we survey the general level of interest throughout the country; and this may best be done through flying saucer and UFO clubs throughout the nation. It will be important, therefore, for NICAP to nurture the growth of these clubs and to help extend their activities. There will be no need for paid investigators at this time, if we develop a zealous and dedicated group of clubs and observers who are eager to investigate at first hand and to back up their reports with complete analyses. These will be arranged for through NICAP with leading scientists throughout the world.

Even this array of tools cannot win public support unless information of a constructive character is released concerning their investigations.

It is in this area again that NICAP can render a great public service. Since we need not be beholden to anyone or any group, but to our mission and our charter, we are in a position to screen independently all information coming in from our filter groups, and after careful evaluation, to release the findings to the public.

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BORDERLAND SCIENCES RESEARCH ASSOCIATES

3524 Adams Ave., San Diego 16, Calif.

The enclosed OPEN LETTER TO ALL CONGRESSMEN was issued by the Detroit Flying Saucer Club; 6432 Cass Ave., Detroit 2, Michigan, and initiated by the Interplanetary Foundation, 24720 Carlysle St., Dearborn, Michigan. It is a follow-up on a telegram sent by Major Donald E. Keyhoe to Secretary Quarles. The main object is to force a Congressional investigation of the conduct of the Air Force with regard to the "flying saucers" and related phenomena. This seems to us a proper and worthwhile project. If you agree, sign your name and address on the lines indicated and mail PROMPTLY to your Congressmen. It will be proper also to send copies to publicists (press and radio) - and of course to any persons disposed to cooperate. We will supply on request.

IT IS IMPORTANT THAT THIS BE DONE IMMEDIATELY IF AT ALL.

M.L., Director B.S.R.A.

An U R G E N T Open Letter to ALL CONGRESSMEN:

Honorable Sirs:

When Major Donald E. Keyhoe, retired U.S. Marine Corps officer, author of "The Flying Saucers Are Real!", "Flying Saucers From Outer Space", and "The Flying Saucer Conspiracy" spoke on March 21, 1956, before the Engineering Society of Detroit, he said:

"The Air Technical Intelligence Center at Dayton secretly informed the Pentagon on September 23, 1947, that flying saucers actually existed and were not hallucinations or hoaxes as the public was being told. The ATIC and its top scientific consultants told AF Chief of Staff, General Hoyt Vandenberg in July, 1948, in a secret analysis that the flying saucers were space ships operating from another planet. The flying Saucers were deliberately explained away by the Air Force's "Project Grudge" in December, 1949, even though most of the reports were based on evidence from experienced pilots, radar men and other qualified observers. In the Fall of 1952 a new secret analysis by a group of Air Force Intelligence officers again concluded that the flying saucers were space ships."

This last panel recommended making these facts public! WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CENSORSHIP? WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR DECIDING THAT THE AMERICAN PUBLIC IS NOT MATURE ENOUGH TO BE TOLD THAT WE ARE POSSIBLY BEING VISITED BY PEOPLE FROM OTHER PLANETS OR SYSTEMS? OR, THAT A POSSIBLE ENEMY OR FRIEND FROM THIS PLANET IS DISREGARDING OUR OWN DEFENSE BARRIERS WITH THEIR MORE ADVANCED AIRCRAFT?

Colonel Edward J. Ruppelt, former chief of the Air Force's Project BLUEBOOK (flying saucer investigation project) together with his staff, analyzed and evaluated more than 4500 flying saucer reports received from field intelligence officers and personally travelled several hundred thousand miles investigating the best of the reports. When interviewed by the"Detroit Times" on Sunday, January 18, 1956, in his present civilian capacity as an aeronautical engineer, Colonel Ruppelt said:

"I am not getting up on any soap-box to say the flying saucers are from outer space...but I do know that the Air Force is not properly representing the situation to the people...for I am the man who investigated it!"

In his recent publication, "The Report On Unidentified Flying Objects", he tells of other reports, the ones that couldn't be explained even after exhaustive inquiry.

Hundreds of excellently documentated testimonials are available concerning sightings from all over the world, for those who wish to investigate them, FIRST HAND, rather than be concerned ONLY with the AF official publication of THEIR censored analysis. Countless organizations have sprung up all over the world to do civilian evaluation of the flying saucer situation which has NO geographical border lines. Thereupon, since this is a world-wide situation, it eliminates the Air Force's possible need for silence because of "security reasons."

Since security reasons are NOT involved, surely, then, it is NOT treason to ask that the democratic process of a CONGRESSIONAL INVESTIGATION get underway...NOT TO QUESTION THE CAPABILITIES OF THE AIR FORCE TO PROTECT THE COUNTRY FROM ANY EARTHLY ENEMY..BUT..TO QUESTION THE POSSIBLE INABILITY OF CERTAIN MEMBERS OF A CONTROLLING FACTOR IN THE AIR FORCE TO CONCEIVE OF THE PROBABILITY OF THE HORIZONS OF HUMANITY BEING OPENED UP INTO HERE-TO-FORE UNKNOWN and WONDERFUL HEIGHTS.

-- THE AMERICAN PUBLIC HAS A RIGHT TO BE INFORMED. --

Name _____ Address _____

_____ _____

_____ _____

AN OPEN LETTER -- AN URGENT APPEAL

THIS CONCERNS the Mental Health Bill for the Territory of Alaska (H.R. 6376), now pending before the Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs. The Bill was described by us in our CQC Bulletin F-5, analyzed in the Santa Ana Register on January 24, 1956, by the National Health Federation in their Bulletin for April 1956, and in an open letter by the writer and publisher Ralph Holland. These and other critics concur with him in describing HR 6376 as "perhaps the most vicious bill ever introduced into Congress". The National and Regional Directors of the Borderland Sciences Research Associates also heartily concur in this opinion just quoted.

THE BILL TRANSFERS to the Territory of Alaska one million acres of federal land, and provides that authorities of any State may send patients there on a reimbursable basis. The Governor of Alaska is made subject to the Surgeon General of the U.S. Public Health Service.

Commitment proceedings can be begun by any interested party - not, as at present, by some close member of the family. Hearing can be held before "any U. S. Commissioner" (a low-ranking official). The person concerned need not be notified, and need not be present. The Commissioner may exclude any person from the hearing, and need not be bound by the rules of evidence.

ANOTHER PROVISION permits "any health, welfare, or police officer who has reason to believe an individual to be mentally ill" to take that person into custody and transport him to a "designated hospital". No court order or other formality of any kind is required. Once so confined, the person may communicate with others only at the discretion of the head of the hospital.

THE MOST FRIGHTENING PART of the whole bill is, perhaps, the fact that a provision providing a penalty for unwarranted hospitalization or the denial of rights set forth elsewhere in the bill was stricken out.

These are only a few of the high points. The definition of mental illness is so broad that anyone who disagreed with anyone in power at the time could be legally called mentally ill and sent to this proposed "American Siberia". Once this bill is passed, the stage is set for the all too familiar tragedy of the dictatorial nations -- the sudden knock on the door in the middle of the night; the mockery of a hearing before some petty party bureaucrat; then silence ever after. Years later the family may hear vague rumours that their loved one had been confined as a "mentally ill" person, but no details would ever be given.

Perhaps this Administration has no intention of so using the bill - but with such a measure enacted into law, who can say what the future may bring forth?

WILL THE SENATE IN THE LAST MINUTE RUSH OF BUSINESS, PASS THIS BILL? This is credible only on the supposition that the honorable Senators do not realize the full content and implications. It is said to have the "vehement backing" of the departments of Justice, Interior, and Health, Education and Welfare. Yet the profoundly vicious character of the bill is apparent at a single critical reading.

THIS APPEAL IS TRULY URGENT. Write to your Senators AT ONCE. Get names and addresses from librarians, newspapers, postmasters. Send copies of this Open Letter if you wish - we can supply them. BUT DO THIS TODAY.

Director, B.S.R.A.
3524 Adams Avenue
San Diego 16, California
May 25, 1956